



In this issue:

- **Jim Motes Scholarship**
- **2015 Greenhouse Tomato Short Course**
- **Oklahoma Fruit & Vegetable Association news**
- **Upcoming Oklahoma Workshops**

Jim Motes Scholarship



The Jim Motes scholarship has until the last of February to raise the \$50,000 that will earn an additional \$75,000 matching gift from the Boone Pickens estate at a future date. As of January 31, 2015 the OSU Foundation has received deposits of \$37,496.67 for this key scholarship! We still need to receive & deposit \$12,503.37 in the next week and a half! We have several promised pledges or gifts that we are still expecting shortly and with their receipt we still need around \$3,000 to reach that \$50,000 minimum! We are also anxious to have more vegetable & herb growers to be a part of this historic effort.

Please join Rodd Moesel in encouraging folks who have not given yet who want to support future vegetable & herb studies and students. A contribution will also recognize the extraordinary lifetime efforts of Jim Motes to our states vegetable and herb industry. Donations made during the next 1½ weeks will be listed as Charter Donors on the Motes Scholarship Fund when we provide that list to Jim and Barbara Motes!

Further reason to contribute to this important scholarship fund includes the declining enrollment of students interested in horticultural food crops and the potential effect that will have on our food supply in the future.

Contributions to the Jim Motes Scholarship can be sent to:

OSU Foundation, attention Kathy McNally
400 S. Monroe
Stillwater, OK 74078
(405) 385-5606 or (405) 205-0068

Jim Motes Fund # 21-24700 Scholarship in Vegetable/Herb Production

2015 Greenhouse Tomato Short Course



Mississippi State will host their 25th annual Greenhouse tomato short course. This short course is a great place to start if you've ever considered becoming a greenhouse tomato grower. Dr. Rick Snyder heads up this course and is considered to be the premier authority on greenhouse tomato production in the U.S. and the world. This year's course will be held March 3 & 4 in Raymond, Mississippi.

For complete information, see the short course website at:
<http://greenhousetomatosc.com>.



Oklahoma Fruit and Vegetable Association News



OFVA had its annual business meeting on Friday January 16th, 2015. It was a busy meeting with officer nominations and election of Kyle Dismukes as president.

Kyle Dismukes President



Kent Livesay as V.P. for the 2015-2016 seasons. The OFVA membership was given an update on the OFVA website and topped off the meeting by encouraging members to contribute to the Jim Motes Scholarship fund.

Kent Livesay V.P.

In addition, dates and locations were set for the spring and fall OFVA board meetings. The spring meeting will be in Oklahoma City on April 16 at 6:00 pm at OSU-OKC at 400 North Portland, the fall meeting will be October 1 at 6:00 pm at the Southwood Farm Market house in Jenks. Any OFVA member is welcome to come to the board meetings.

Upcoming Oklahoma Workshops

Two specialty crop workshops are available for OFVA members to take part in. A food safety workshop will be held Tuesday February 24th at Rose, OK a production

workshop will be held Thursday March 5th at Redrock, OK. The Sustainable and Organic Production Conference will be held February 27th and 28th. The Oklahoma Farmers Market Conference will be March 16th. More information on each conference is given below.

Specialty Crops Workshop
February 24 • Rose, OK • 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Details
This program is free, with lunch and refreshments provided. RSVP required for lunch count and materials.

Content
Information on developing a food safety plan for fresh produce operations and an on-farm safety assessment checklist to decrease the risk of pre and post harvest food safety issues.

Speakers include Dr. Lynn Brandenberger, OSU Horticulture Food Crops Extension and Research Specialist; Dr. William McGlynn, OSU FAPC Horticulture Products Processing Specialist; and Rao Kakarala, OSU FAPC Food Safety Associate.

Location & Directions
Leach First Baptist Church, 5804 US Hwy 412 Alt. E, Rose, OK 74364
From Highway 412 E. (Cherokee Turnpike), Take the Leach/Rose Exit. Turn right onto US 412 Alt E. (Scenic Alternate 412) and proceed toward Leach for 3.8 miles.

Contact
For more information and to RSVP, contact Sara Siems, 405 744 9828 or sara.siems@okstate.edu.

See More On Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Oklahoma-Fruit-and-Vegetable-Association/203083793081535>

Sustainable and Organic Production Conference

**Friday, February 27 &
Saturday, February 28, 2015
OSU-OKC Student Center
900 N. Portland Ave.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

We will convene at the OSU-OKC Student Center then plan on driving to the Agriculture Resource Center.



Conference Description

This annual sustainable and organic production conference is designed for beginning AND advanced growers.

Programming emphasis will include the following:

- Hands-on Growing Techniques
- Season Extension
- Varietal Selections
- Farm Management Practices
- Tours of Farmers' Market, green houses, and high tunnel facilities
- Visit with product suppliers, educational exhibitors, and industry-related vendors
- Featured Speakers include nationally and state recognized specialists and experienced local growers
- Optional dinner Friday evening featuring music and networking opportunities with several speakers

Registration information for the Sustainable and Organic conference available at:

<http://www.osuokc.edu/organicoklahoma/>

2015 Oklahoma Farmers Market Conference

SAVE THE DATE
FARMERS MARKET CONFERENCE
OSU-OKC 900 N. PORTLAND, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73107
STUDENT CENTER • THIRD FLOOR
MARCH 2015 16
FREE LUNCH PROVIDED • RSVP BY MARCH 6TH
REGISTRATION CONFERENCE
8:30 A.M.-9:00 A.M. 9:00 A.M.-3:30 P.M.
REGISTER AT WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/OKGROWN
OR CALL ASHLEY BENDER AT (405) 522-4330



Specialty Crops Workshop

March 5 • Red Rock, OK • 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Details

This program is free, with lunch and refreshments provided. RSVP required for lunch count and materials.

Content

Learn more about season extension techniques, such as using high-tunnel hoop houses, with an on-farm site visit. A plasticulture demonstration will be given along with how to set up drip tape irrigation. Other topics will include soil preparation and sampling, direct seeding, starting and planting transplants, and more!

Speakers: Dr. Lynn Brandenberger, OSU Horticulture Food Crops Extension and Research Specialist; Dr. Jim Shreffler, OSU Area Extension Horticulture Specialist; Micah Anderson, OK Dept. of Ag, Food & Forestry Plasticulture Program; and Rod Krueger, K-2 Farm owner and operator.

Location & Directions

Otoe Missouria Complex Cultural Building and Garden, 8151 HWY 177, Red Rock, OK 74651

From I-35: take US 412 East to HWY 177 (exit 15). Go north on 177 approximately 9 miles. Otoe Missouria Tribal Complex will be on your left (west side of 177). Drive in to the complex and the Cultural Building will be on your right (north side of the drive).

Contact

For more information and to RSVP, contact Sara Siems, 405 744 9826 or sara.siems@okstate.edu.